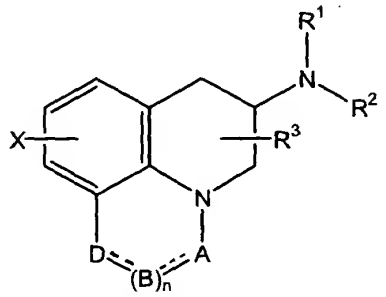
ABSTRACT

A sustained-release pharmaceutical composition in a form of an orally deliverable tablet comprises as active pharmaceutical agent a compound of formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and are H, C_{1-6} alkyl (optionally phenyl substituted), C_{3-5} alkenyl or alkynyl or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, or where R^3 is as above and R^1 and R^2 are cyclized with the attached N atom to form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, 4-methylpiperazinyl or imidazolyl groups; X is H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl or alkoxy, CN, carboxamide, carboxyl or (C_{1-6} alkyl)carbonyl; A is CH, CH_2, CHF, CHCl, CHBr, CHI, $CHCH_3$, C=O, C=S, $CSCH_3$, C=NH, CNH_2, $CNHCH_3$, $CNHCOOCH_3$, CNHCN, SO_2 or N; B is CH, CH_2, CHF, CHCl, CHBr, CHI, C=O, N, NH or NCH_3, and n is 0 or 1; and D is CH, CH_2, CHF, CHCl, CHBr, CHI, C=O, O, N, NH or NCH_3. The agent is dispersed in a matrix comprising a hydrophilic polymer and a starch having a tensile strength of at least about 0.15 kN cm^{-2} at a solid fraction representative of the tablet. The composition exhibits sustained-release properties effective for treatment of Parkinson's disease. The tablet is optionally coated. Tablets of the invention have improved resistance to attrition or erosion during manufacture, packaging and handling.